Freedom of Information Bill

† 3470. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received recommendations of the Committee regarding Freedom of Information Bill;

(b) if so, die session in which the Government have decided to pass the Bill keeping in view these recommendations; and

(c) the date when the report of the Committee was received by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The recommendations as contained in the Seventy-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on the 'Freedom of Information Bill, 2000' have been received by the Government on 27th July, 2001. The recommendations made by the Committee are under examination. Decision about die session in which the Government may move a motion to get the Bill passed will be taken thereafter.

Criteria Fixed for Promotion

3471. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued an order dated 9m August, 1999 for promotion of Government employees;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for promotion;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of the departments have not implemented these orders including die Central Police Organisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Government have issued an Office Memorandum on 9th August, 1999 introducing an Assured Career Progression Scheme for the Central

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Government Civilian employees. The Scheme is intended to provide relief to the stagnating employees who could not earn promotions due to non-availability of vacancies in the higher grades. The Scheme provides for grant of two financial upgradations in the hierarchical grades on completion of 12 and 24 years of regular service where the employee has not earned one/two regular promotions at the end of 12 and 24 years of regular service respectively. The scheme is applicable to all Group 'B', 'C & 'D' employees. It is also applicable to holders of all isolated posts, including isolated Group 'A' posts. Grant of financial upgradations is subject to fulfillment of all promotional norms.

(c) and (d) The implementation of the Scheme in various Central Government offices is the responsibility of the individual administrative Ministry/Department and actual status of implementation of the Scheme in any office is available only with the concerned administrative Ministry/ Department.

Action Plan to Stabilize Population Growth

3472. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan to stabilize population growth;

(b) whether any agency is monitoring the population control action plan by the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof/

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) After the adoption of National Population Policy 2000, the long-term objective of which is to achieve a stable population by 2045, the National Commission on Population requested the States to formulate State Population Policies to effectively deal with various issues relating to population stabilization in each State. In view of the wide inter-State and intra-State differences, the States were also advised to prepare District Action Plans for the identified high fertility districts for improving the socio-economic and demographic indicators affecting population growth. In addition, the reproductive and child health programmes of the Department of Family Welfare and Externally Aided projects in some States are based on the Annual Action Plans prepared at the district and State level. Though the implementation/monitoring of the State Population Policies is mainly the responsibility of the respective State Governments, the monitoring of